1. In a computer system having a video display device, the video display device having a screen, a method comprising:

providing a plurality of controls on the screen of the video display device;

identifying a control group, the control group being comprised of at least two controls associated in a data structure;

representing the control group with a single status indicator in the data structure; and

directing the activation of the controls of the control group by storing an active value in the single status indicator.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the computer system further includes a cursor which is displayed on the screen of the video display device, the method further comprising:

identifying a location on the screen that the cursor points to; and

for each control of the control group, identifying a control position, the control position defining a location on the screen for the activated control, determining a control distance, the control distance defining a control connecting path which connects the identified location with the control position, calculating a control angle, the control angle being an angle formed between the control connecting path and a last direction of cursor movement path, and calculating a weighted distance.

3. An apparatus for activating and deactivating a control grouping, the control grouping being comprised of at least two controls and being displayed on a screen of a video display device of a computer system, the apparatus including:

a memory formed within the computer system; and

a control grouping identifier contained within the memory, wherein the control grouping identifier has an active state and an inactive state and wherein the control grouping identifier represents the controls of the control grouping.

4. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the control grouping identifier is a bit of a control word.

5. The method of claim 1, further comprising directing the activation of individual controls by storing an active value in a status indicator for each control.

6. The method of claim 1, further comprising directing the deactivation of the controls of the control group by masking the active value in the single status indicator.

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7. **(Amended)** The method of claim 1, further comprising:

directing the deactivation of the controls of the control group by masking the active value in the single status indicator; and

directing the activation of the controls of the control group by storing an active value in a status indicator for each control.

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8. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the apparatus further includes an identifier for an individual control contained within the memory, and wherein the identifier for the individual control has an active state and an inactive state.